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Practitioner's Docket No 55,474 (70968)
PATENT1771A
1771A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Y. Shimizu
Application No.: 09/719,316
Filed: December 11, 2000
For: COLLAGEN MATERIAL AND ITS PRODUCTION PROCESS

Conf. No.: 7005
Group No.: 1771
Examiner: Boyd, Jennifer A.

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JUL 17 2003
GROUP 1700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

STATUS

2. Applicant is

- [] a small entity. A statement:
[] is attached.
[] was already filed.
[X] other than a small entity.

EXTENSION OF TERM

NOTE: "Extension of Time in Patent Cases (Supplement Amendments) -- If a timely and complete response has been filed after a Non-Final Office Action, an extension of time is not required to permit filing and/or entry of an additional amendment after expiration of the shortened statutory period.

If a timely response has been filed after a Final Office Action, an extension of time is required to permit filing and/or entry

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

- [x] deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FACSIMILE

- [] transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office (703) _____

Eileen M Woodbury
Signature

Date: July 8, 2003

Eileen M. Woodbury
(type or print name of person certifying)

of a Notice of Appeal or filing and/or entry of an additional amendment after expiration of the shortened statutory period unless the timely-filed response placed the application in condition for allowance. Of course, if a Notice of Appeal has been filed within the shortened statutory period, the period has ceased to run." Notice of December 10, 1985 (1061 O.G. 34-35).

NOTE: See 37 C.F.R. Section 1.645 for extensions of time in interference proceedings, and 37 C.F.R. Section 1.550(c) for extensions of time in reexamination proceedings.

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136 apply.

(complete (a) or (b), as applicable)

- (a) [] Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136 (fees: 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(a)(1)-(4)) for the total number of months checked below:

	Extension (months)	Fee for other than <u>small entity</u>	Fee for <u>small entity</u>
[X]	one month	\$ 110.00	\$ 55.00
[]	two months	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00
[]	three months	\$ 920.00	\$ 460.00
[]	four months	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 720.00

Fee: \$ 110.00

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

(check and complete the next item, if applicable)

- [] An extension for _____ months has already been secured. The fee paid therefor of \$ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

Extension fee due with this request \$ 110.00

OR

- (b) [X] Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. Section 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)		(Col. 3) SMALL ENTITY			OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY		
Claims		Highest No.							
Remaining After Amendment		Previously Paid For		Present Extra		Rate	Addit. Fee	OR	Addit. Fee
Total	28	Minus	28	=	x \$9 =	\$		x \$18 =	\$
Indep.	4	Minus	4	=	x \$42 =	\$		x \$84 =	\$
[] First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim					+ \$140 =	\$		+ \$280 =	\$
					Total Addit. Fee	\$____	OR	Total Addit. Fee	\$0

- * If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "O" in Col. 3,
 - ** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
 - *** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
- The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

WARNING: *"After final rejection or action (Section 1.113) amendments may be made canceling claims or complying with any requirement of form which has been made." 37 C.F.R. Section 1.116(a) (emphasis added).*

(complete (c) or (d), as applicable)

(c) No additional fee for claims is required.

OR

(d) Total additional fee for claims required \$

FEE PAYMENT

5. Attached is a check in the sum of \$110.00.
 Charge Account No. _____ the sum of \$ _____.
A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

FEE DEFICIENCY

NOTE: *If there is a fee deficiency and there is no authorization to charge an account, additional fees are necessary to cover the additional time consumed in making up the original deficiency. If the maximum, six-month period has expired before the deficiency is noted and corrected, the application is held abandoned. In those instances where authorization to charge is included, processing delays are encountered in returning the papers to the PTO Finance Branch in order to apply these charges prior to action on the cases. Authorization to charge the deposit account for any fee deficiency should be checked. See the Notice of April 7, 1986, (1065 O.G. 31-33).*

6. [X] If any additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Account No. 04-1105.

AND/OR

- [X] If any additional fee for claims is required, charge Account No. 04-1105.

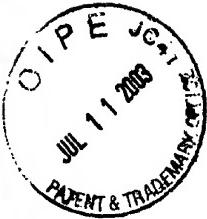
Respectfully submitted

Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard
Reg. No. 44,368

Date: July 8, 2003 By:

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Docket No. 55474 (968)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: SHIMIZU, Y.

EXAMINER: J. Boyd

SERIAL NO.: 09/719,316

GROUP: 1771

FILED: 12/11/2000

FOR: COLLAGEN MATERIAL AND ITS PRODUCTION PROCESS

RECEIVED
JUL 17 2003
GROUP 1700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 11, 2003.

By: Eileen M Woodbury
Eileen Woodbury

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

The following is in response to the Office Action mailed March 20, 2003, in the above referenced application.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3 and 9 to read as follows:

1. A collagen material consisting of a matrix of a non-woven fabric-like multi-element structure of collagen fibers having ultra-fine fibers of collagen as its basic unit,

the matrix being filled with a substance having biocompatibility that can be degraded and absorbed in the body,

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